

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please ADD new claim 6 in accordance with the following:

1. (original) A scanner apparatus provided with both a flatbed mechanism and an auto-document feeder mechanism, characterized in that

the auto-document feeder mechanism is supported via a movable coupling mechanism so that the relative position and relative orientation of the auto-document feeder mechanism in relation to the flatbed mechanism can be changed.

2. (original) A scanner apparatus of claim 1, wherein an auto-document feeder mechanism support base is provided at a position that does not obstruct the opening and closing of a paper-pressing board of the flatbed mechanism, and the auto-document feeder mechanism is disposed on the auto-document feeder mechanism support base via the movable coupling mechanism, whereby reading with the flatbed mechanism and reading with the auto-document feeder mechanism are simultaneously performed.

3. (original) A scanner apparatus of claim 1, further comprising, as the movable coupling mechanism, rails provided on the flatbed mechanism, a slider which is movable along the rails, and a rotating post for coupling the slider and the auto-document feeder mechanism, whereby the auto-document feeder mechanism can be moved along the rails and rotated.

4. (original) A scanner apparatus of claim 1, further comprising, as the movable coupling mechanism, rails provided on the flatbed mechanism, and the auto-document feeder mechanism itself having a shape which enables the auto-document feeder mechanism to be fitted onto the rails with an orientation selected from opposite orientations, whereby the auto-document feeder mechanism itself can move along the rails.

5. (original) A scanner apparatus of claim 1, further comprising, as the movable coupling

mechanism, coupling protrusions provided on a bottom portion of the auto-document feeder mechanism, wherein the coupling protrusions are inserted into selected holes of attachment holes provided at a plurality of positions on the flatbed mechanism, whereby the auto-document feeder mechanism can be disposed at a selected position with an orientation selected from opposite orientations.

6. (new) The scanner apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the auto-document feeder mechanism operates at a relative position selected from a plurality of positions with an orientation selected from opposite orientations on the flatbed mechanism, the auto-document feeder mechanism being configured to operate at each of the plurality of positions in each of the opposite orientations.

7. (new) A scanner apparatus, comprising:

a flatbed document-reading mechanism;
an auto-document feeder mechanism; and

a movable coupling mechanism supporting the auto-document feeder mechanism so that the auto-document feeder mechanism is configured to move with respect to a surface of the flatbed document-reading mechanism and rotate with respect to the flatbed document-reading mechanism.